

Appln No. 09/747,392

Amdt date March 25, 2005

Reply to Office action of September 29, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 are currently pending in this application, of which claims 4-7 have been allowed.

As an initial matter, Applicant would like to thank that Examiner for graciously conducting a telephone interview with the undersigned on March 3, 2005.

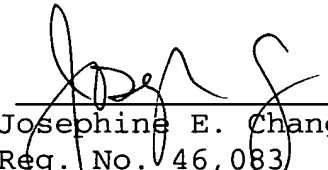
Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silberfenig (U.S. Patent No. 6,243,594) in view of Komiya (U.S. Patent No. 6,510,208). Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silberfenig in view of Komiya and further in view of Fox et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,064,792).

During the telephone interview, Silberfenig and Komiya were discussed in detail in light of independent claims 1 and 2. The Examiner agreed during the interview that claims 1 and 2 were not rendered obvious over Silberfenig and Komiya. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Final Rejection dated September 29, 2004, and the Advisory Action dated January 25, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By


Josephine E. Chang

Reg. No. 46,083

626/795-9900

JEC/lal

JEC PAS590421.1-* -11/29/04 12:52 PM